

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAJ-01 AF-06 SAM-01 /078 W

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R 131601Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2076

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GE

SUBJECT: EAST GERMAN PRESS CONTINUES TO HIGHLIGHT ANGOLA

REF: BERLIN 4213

1. EAST BERLIN NEWSPAPERS HAVE REACHED THE POINT OF HIGH PRAISE, BORDERING ON JUBILATION, FOR THE MILITARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE MPLA IN ANGOLA DURING THE PAST WEEK. THEY REPORT THAT THE COUNTRY IS NOW "NINETY PERCENT" IN THE HANDS OF THIS MOVEMENT AND THAT INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION BY A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE OAU AND BY THE OAU ITSELF HAS ASSURED THE "NEW ANGOLA" OF A PLACE IN MODERN AFRICA. THE NEUES DEUTSCHLAND COMMENTARY OPINES THAT THE VICTORIOUS FIGHT OF THE "ANGOLAN PEOPLE" WILL HAVE REPERCUSSIONS BEYOND AFRICA IN THOSE PLACES WHERE THE STRUGGLE AGAINST "NEO-COLONIALISM AND IMPERIALISM" IS STILL BEING WAGED.

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2. AT THE SAME TIME, THE GDR GOVERNMENT IS TRYING TO REAP ITS REWARD BY STATING THAT THE GDR HAS PROVIDED " POLITICAL-MORAL" AND MATERIAL SUPPORT TO THE MPLA FROM THE TIME IT WAS FORMED IN 1956, AND IN PARTICULAR WHEN THE MPLA BEGAN ITS GUERRILLA ATTACKS AGAINST LUANDA IN 1961. THE MATERIAL SUPPORT IS DEFINED AS FOOD, MEDICINES AND TEXTILES.

3. THE NEWSPAPERS ALSO REPORT A RECENT SOVIET TELEVISION PROGRAM IN WHICH DR . NETO THANKS THE SOVIET PEOPLE FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN ACHIEVING SUCCESS IN THE STRUGGLE THUS FAR. SUCH NEWS MERITS ONLY INSIDE PAGE COVERAGE IN THE CURRENT EDITIONS.

4. COMMENT: THE GDR'S POSITION ON THE ANGOLAN WAR HAS CHANGED MARKEDLY FROM ONE OF HESITANT SUPPORT FOR THE MPLA TWO WEEKS AGO TO ONE OF DIRECT ASSOCIATION WITH NETO AND HIS MOVEMENT IN THE PAST FEW DAYS. THIS CHANGE HAS PARALLELED THE MILITARY ADVANCE OF THE MPLA AND SUGGESTS A MUCH CLOSER GDR ASSOCIATION WITH MPLA THAN IS PROBABLY THE CASE. THE GDR GOVERNMENT IS MAKING CLEAR HOWEVER THAT ITS SUPPORT OF ANGOLA IS IN THE FORM OF NON-MILITARY AND APPARENTLY HUMANITARIAN AID. GROVE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BERLIN05248
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760057-0156
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760253/aaaabtqd.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BERLIN 4213
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <01 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EAST GERMAN PRESS CONTINUES TO HIGHLIGHT ANGOLA
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, GC, AO, MPLA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006